



Angélica Infante-Green  
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
**DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**  
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**Enclosure 4a4**  
**May 27, 2020**

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**TO:** Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

**FROM:** Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner *A. Infante*

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Necessity of School Construction: Newport

The Council on Elementary and Secondary Education has as one of its responsibilities reviewing and certifying the need for school construction projects to be reimbursed through the school housing aid program and the SBA Capital Fund. Most large projects are supported by bonds and are comprehensive projects with major renovation and/or new construction components. With the passage of the Statewide School Construction Bond in November 2018, voters activated six new temporary bonus incentives and access to \$250M in upfront funding to support the state share of foundation school housing aid.

At this meeting, the Council is being asked to approve a Necessity of School Construction application. A chart summarizing Newport Public Schools' projects is provided in Attachment 1.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THAT, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approve the Necessity of School Construction Projects totaling **\$106,334,967** pursuant to R.I.G.L. §16-7-41.1 as follows (please note that when the applicable reimbursement share ratios are applied to the estimated total project costs noted below, the state share is expected to be **\$37,217,238**, which includes \$7,927,272 in pay-as-you-go funding):

**Newport:**

- a. New Construction/Major Renovations
  - i. Claiborne Pell Elementary School \$ 7,472,300
  - ii. Rogers High School \$ 98,862,667

## SUMMARY: FY 2020 NECESSITY OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	JUSTIFICATION	FY 2020 AID SHARE RATIO*	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST**	STATE SHARE	STATE SHARE W/ INTEREST***
<b>New Construction</b>	This project includes the construction of a new High School for 755 students in the Newport School District. The new building will replace and consolidate the existing, outdated High School and the Career Tech Center, as part of a districtwide masterplan. The masterplan also includes a 15,000 square foot addition at the Pell Elementary School.	<p>The existing High School has one of the highest FCIs in the State, as well as outdated systems that are not aligned with the district's educational program vision. The new High School will be a 165,783 square foot comprehensive facility that blends vocational and academic programs into a 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environment.</p> <p>The 8 classroom addition at the Pell Elementary School will address overcrowding and anticipated enrollment growth, as well as site deficiencies and vehicular and pedestrian circulation.</p>	Base Rate 35%	\$106,334,967	\$37,217,238	\$52,848,479
			Maximum Rate 52.5%****	\$106,334,967	\$55,825,858	\$79,272,718

\* State share ratio is based on FY2020 calculation, pursuant to RIGL 16-7-41(b).

\*\* The approval only includes bond funded projects.

\*\*\* Only bonds financed through RIHEBC are eligible for reimbursement on interest.

\*\*\*\* District may be eligible for a maximum of 17.5% additional reimbursement, pursuant to RIGL 16-7-40.